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10 January 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Update of Director's Briefing Book

The following information is submitted as OSA's input for inclusion to the subject document:

A. The CIA U-2R aircraft are maintained at two operating locations; Edwards AFB, California and [REDACTED] The purpose of these elements is to provide a world-wide, rapid response, overhead or peripheral reconnaissance capability.

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B. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] coverage of the PRC coastal facilities. The significance of intelligence collected from these efforts is marginal due to the U.S. Government policy prohibiting an approach closer than 25 NM to the mainland.

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D. The Edwards Detachment serves as a test and development center for U-2 [] collection systems.

Additionally, they maintain a capability to deploy to any operating locations and conduct reconnaissance missions in response to National requirements. All CIA U-2 pilot training is conducted at this detachment.



F. Currently, Edwards U-2R's are photographing controlled poppy growth areas in Puerto Rico in an effort to develop a photo interpretation key. If successful, this key could be used in conjunction with satellite imagery to detect illicit growth of opium poppies.

G. In summary, the U-2 aircraft offers several distinct advantages as a collection system: (1) it can respond to crisis situations anywhere in the world within 50 hours; (2) in a broad sense it can be nonattributable by []

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[] and (3) it may be launched from and recovered by aircraft carriers on the high seas.

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H. Approval for the continuation of the IDEALIST Program
was given by the 40 Committee during their meeting on 18 August 1970.

On 5 August 1971 higher authority approved continuation of the

U-2 IDEALIST Program

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